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April 12, 2001

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GROUP ART UNIT: 2154
Examiner: Meng An

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
APR 16 2001
Group 2100

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/545,608; Filed: April 7, 2000
For: **An Intellectual Asset Protocol for Defining Data Exchange Rules and
Formats for Universal Intellectual Asset Documents, and Systems,
Methods, and Computer Program Products Related to Same**
Inventors: Hohmann *et al.*
Our Ref: 1531.0300001

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) (*in duplicate*);
2. Form PTO-1449 with twelve (12) accompanying references; and
3. One return post card.

Commissioner for Patents

April 12, 2001

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It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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MQL/MAM/tp
Enclosures